ABSTRACT

A graphic contour extracting method includes: acquiring an image of a graphic form to be inspected; defining an inspection region for the image of the graphic form to be inspected by an inspection graphic form including at least one of a circle, an ellipse, a rectangle, a first rectangular graphic form, a second rectangular graphic form and a closed curved graphic form, at least one end of the first rectangular graphic form being replaced with any one of a semi-circle, a semi-ellipse and a parabola, at least one of four corners of the second rectangular graphic form being replaced with a 1/4 circle or a 1/4 ellipse, the closed curved graphic form being expressed by the following expression:

$$\frac{(x-x_0)^4}{a^4}+\frac{(y-y_0)^4}{b^4}=1,$$

and the inspection graphic form having an edge searching direction previously defined for at least one component thereof; and searching an edge of the graphic form to be inspected on the basis of the inspection graphic form to acquire contour information of the graphic form to be inspected.